



U.S. Department of Justice
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NEWS RELEASE

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January 16, 2004

EMPORIA, KANSAS, MAN SENTENCED FOR POSSESSING A SAWED-OFF RIFLE IN RELATION TO A DRUG TRAFFICKING CRIME

TOPEKA, Kan. – United States Attorney Eric Melgren announced that **Darrell Wayne Walker**, 48, Emporia, Kansas, was sentenced on January 16, 2004, by U.S. District Judge Richard D. Rogers **to ten years in federal prison, without parole, to be followed by three years of supervised release.**

Melgren said that Walker entered a guilty plea on October 20, 2003, to one count of possessing a sawed-off rifle during and in relation to a drug trafficking crime.

Melgren said that Walker admitted at his plea that on January 15, 2002, he was arrested by the Lyon County Sheriff's Office following a complaint from a female that she had been kidnaped by Walker and Walker had fired a sawed-off rifle next to her head. This woman provided a detailed description of the sawed-off rifle. Walker further admitted that he was arrested in his truck, in front of his residence, and following his arrest, deputies searched his truck and found approximately 8 grams (approximately .28 ounce) of methamphetamine and a loaded pistol in Walker's coat, in the truck, and the sawed-off rifle behind the seat. Walker admitted possessing all the firearms and admitted selling drugs from his residence and trading drugs for guns.

Melgren commended the excellent work of the Lyon County Sheriff's Office and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives in this investigation and Assistant U.S. Attorney Greg Hough in this prosecution.